

ROBERT J. WITTMAN  
1ST DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4601**

January 8, 2010

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Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications  
and Information  
Administrator, National Telecommunications  
and Information Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

I am writing to invite you to attend a Broadband Roundtable in my district on February 2, 2010 as a featured speaker. The event will take place from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at Rappahannock Community College in Warsaw, Virginia.

Roundtable participants will include County Administrators from the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck region of Virginia (10 counties), regional Planning District Commission directors and staff, local economic development authority staff and other shareholders involved in rural broadband initiatives. We are also inviting a representative from USDA Rural Development to discuss their Broadband Initiatives Program.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the broadband and technology needs of localities in rural areas as well as ways stakeholders can best position their broadband initiatives to apply for and receive federal funding. The forum would also be an opportunity for localities to be informed about the status of federal programs such as the National Broadband Mapping Program, the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, the Broadband USA online application portal, and the newly created BroadbandMatch program in addition to other activities under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Of particular interest to localities and stakeholders will be the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's grant programs, application timelines, eligibility rules, and the decision-making process for grant awards.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please contact my Legislative Director, Jamie Miller, at 202-225-4261 for more information and to confirm your participation.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Robert J. Wittman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a stylized "J".

Robert J. Wittman  
Member of Congress